

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please insert the following paragraph before the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 3:

Related Applications

The present application is a continuation application of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/694,008, filed on December 23, 2000, entitled "A LAPTOP LOCK," the entire contents of which are expressly incorporated herein by reference.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 6 with the following:

In general terms, the present invention relates to a lock, or a locking system or locking method, which helps to prevent theft ~~[[or]]~~ of small components, such as portable or even desktop computers, peripherals, or the like. The lock in several embodiments herein preferably includes a lock, which is adapted to include an entrapment mechanism or entrapment means.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 11 with the following:

The lock body 200 includes a first body 210, a second body 220 and a third body 230. The first body 210 and second body 220 ~~surrounding~~ surround the cable plug 110 ~~with~~ and the third body ~~surrounding~~ surrounds the lock 300.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 14 with the following:

The first body 210 has an inside diameter larger than the outside diameter of the head 120. In various exemplary embodiments, a head 204 is attached to or integral with a surface 124 of the head 120 so as to prevent the first body 210 from extending beyond the cable plug 110. Head 204 has an outside diameter larger than the inside diameter of the first body 210. The first body 210 further comprises a first arm 212. ~~The first arm 212 extending~~ that extends away from the inside diameter of the first body 210. The first body 210 further comprises a second arm 214 attached to the outside diameter of the first arm 212. The second arm 214 ~~extending~~ extends toward the second body 220.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 23 with the following:

The second body 220 of the lock body 200 has a first inside diameter larger than the outside diameter of the head 120. The second body 220 also has an arm 222. The arm ~~extending~~ extends away from the first inside diameter of the second body 220. The second body 220 also has a second inside diameter larger than the collar 130 and collar 160, but smaller than the first diameter. The diameter difference between the first diameter and second diameter ~~forming~~ form a lip 224. The second body 220 also has a third diameter larger than the outside diameter of stem 170 and smaller than the second diameter. The diameter difference between the second diameter and third diameter ~~forming~~ form a surface 226. The second body 220 further comprises an arm 228. The arm 228 ~~extending~~ extends away from the interior of the second body 220. The arm 228 is capable of being inserted into a standard slot in the outer wall of a computer (not shown).

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 3 with the following:

The third body 230 of the lock body 200 is attached to the second body 220. The third body 230 ~~having~~ has a first inside diameter larger than the outside diameter of the lock 300.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 6 with the following:

The lock 300 includes a body 304 with a push button 302 located at one end of the body 304 and a detent 306 located at another side of the body 304. The lock 300 is located such that the push button 302 appears from the outside of the third body 230 and the body 304 and detent 306 extend into the second diameter of the second body 220. The lock 300 is a standard locking device with a push button 302 capable of moving the detent 306 along the B axis. In various exemplary embodiments, the third body 230 has a second inside diameter less than the outside diameter of the body 304 and greater than the outside diameter of the detent 306. The difference between the first diameter and the second diameter of the third body 230 thus ~~forming~~ forms a lip 232 ~~[[in]]~~ on which the body 304 of the lock 300 rests.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 16 with the following:

As shown in Figs. 3 and 4, the cable plug 110 is inserted into the lock body 200. The cable plug 110 is restricted in its movement along the A axis by the surface 164 of the collar 160 coming into contact with the surface 226 of the second body 220. The cable plug 110 is also restricted along the A axis by the surface 162 of the collar 160 coming into contact with the body 304 extending into the second diameter of the second body 220.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 25 with the following:

When moving back to the unlocked state as shown in Fig. 4, an unlocking mechanism is applied to the lock 300 such that the push button 302 moves out along the B axis. As the push button 302 moves along the B axis, the detent 306 moves away from the surface 162 of the collar 160. Once the detent 306 moves away from the surface 162 of the collar 160, the potential energy stored in the spring 140 forces the cable plug 110 along the A axis. As the cable plug 110 moves along the A axis, the arms 212 and 214 of the first body 210 move away from the arm 222 of the second body 220. As such, an open area 202 is created such that objects can be removed from the area 202. The cable plug 110 moves along the A axis until the surface 162 of the collar 160 comes into contact with the body 304 that extend into the second diameter of the second body 220. Thereafter, the push button 302 can be moved along the B axis such that the detent 306 comes into contact with the surface 164 of the collar 160 so as to restrict axial movement of the cable plug 110 along the A axis.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 4 with the following:

Figs. 6-8 illustrate a second exemplary embodiment of a clamp 600 according to this invention and Fig. 9 illustrates a first exemplary embodiment of the cable apparatus 500 and clamp 600. As shown in Figs. 6-8, the clamp 600 includes a body 610. Attached to the body 610 is a left ridge 620 and a right ridge 630. Each of the left ridge 620 and right ridge 630 ~~having~~ have a first arm 621, 631 extending away from the interior of the body and a second arm 623, 633 extending from the first arm and away from the outside surface of the body 610.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 11 with the following:

The clamp 600 also includes an opening 640. The opening 640 ~~having~~ has a cylindrical shape through the body 610. The opening 640 also has a first diameter 644 extending through the entire body 610 with a diameter larger than the outside diameter of the collar 530 but smaller than the head 520 so as to insert the collars 530 and 550 and stems 540 and 560 through the body 610 and to restrict axial movement of the head 520. The opening 640 further includes a second diameter 646 extending a substantial distance but not entirely through the body 610. The second diameter 646 ~~having a diameter is~~ is larger than the first diameter 644 and the outside diameter of the head 520. The second diameter ~~644 having a diameter~~ 646 is larger than the head 520 so as to insert the head 520 through the opening 640 but the head is unable to pass through the entire body ~~[[616]]~~ 610. The diameter difference between the first diameter 644 and second diameter 646 thus ~~creating~~ creates a ledge 642 so as to rest the second surface 524 of the head 520 against the ledge 642.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 26 with the following:

The clamp 600 further includes an opening 650. The opening 650 ~~extending~~ extends through the body 610 at the opposite end of opening 640.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 1 with the following:

Figs. 10 and 11 illustrate a second exemplary embodiment of a lock body 700 according to this invention. As shown in Figs. 10 and 11, the lock body 700 includes a body 710. At one surface of the body 710 is a first opening 720 with a cylindrical body 722 extending through the body 710. The opening 720 and cylindrical body 722 ~~having~~ have a diameter larger than the outside diameter of the collar 530. Thus, it should be appreciated that the collar 530 and 550 and stem 540 and 560 can be inserted through the opening 720 and the cylindrical body 722 of the body 710. At the other surface of the body 710 is a second opening 730. The second opening 730 ~~[having]~~ has an inside diameter larger than the outside diameter of the stem 560 so as to allow the stem 560 to pass through the second opening 730 but smaller than the outside diameter

of the collar 550. Thus, it should be appreciated that axial movement of the cable apparatus 500 is restricted as the collar 550 comes into contact with the body 710.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 14 with the following:

The lock body 710 further comprises an arm ~~740~~. ~~The arm 740~~ extending away from the lock body 710 so as to be inserted into a center slot in the outer wall of a computer (not shown).

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 23 with the following:

When moving into a locked state as shown in Fig. 12, the lock 700 is unlocked such that the pushbutton 702 is moved away from the lock body 700. Consequently, the detent ~~[[706]]~~ 754 moves outside of the cylindrical body 722 so that the collar 530 and 540 and stem ~~[[540]]~~ 550 and 560 can move throughout the cylindrical body 722. The cable apparatus is then moved through the cylindrical body 710 until the collar 550 comes into contact with the second opening 730 of the body 710. As the cable apparatus 500 moves through the cylindrical body 722, the left ridge 620 and the right ridge 630 of the clamp 600 surrounds the lock body 700 as the body 610 of the clamp 600 comes into contact with the body 710 of the lock body 700. As should be appreciated, the body 710 closes the opening 650 such that objects placed within the opening 650 are prevented from escaping.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 7 with the following:

Once the collar 550 comes into contact with the second diameter 730, the push button 702 extends into the cylindrical body 722 such that the detent ~~[[704]]~~ 754 is between the collar 530 and collar 550. Once the detent ~~[[704]]~~ 754 extends between the collar 530 and the collar 550, the lock 700 locks the detent ~~[[704]]~~ 754 in position such that the detent ~~[[704]]~~ 754 prevents the cable plug 510 from moving as it comes into contact with collar 530 and collar 550.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 13 with the following:

When moving back to the unlocked state, a locking mechanism is applied to the lock 700 such that the push button 702 is then moved away from the lock body 700. As the push button

702 moves, the detent [[704]] 754 moves away from the cylindrical body 722. Once the detent [[704]] 754 moves away from the cylindrical body 722 the cable apparatus 500 is thereafter able to move through the opening 720. As such, the opening 650 is opened as the clamp 600 moves away from the lock.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 6 with the following:

As shown in Fig. 13, the cable 802 is attached to a head 820 of the cable plug 810. The head 820 further comprises a surface 822. Attached to or integral with the surface 822 is a stem 830. The stem 830 ~~having~~ has an outside diameter smaller than the outside diameter of the head 820. Attached to or integral with the stem 830 is a collar 840. The collar 840 ~~having~~ has an outside diameter larger than the outside diameter of the stem 830. The collar 840 further comprises a first surface 842 and a second surface 844. Attached to or integral with the second surface 844 of the collar 840 is a stem 850. The stem 850 ~~having~~ has an outside diameter less than the outside diameter of the collar 840.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 30 with the following:

Lock body 910 further comprises an arm ~~940, the arm~~ 940 extending away from the lock body 910 so as to be inserted into a center slot in the outer wall of a computer (not shown).

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 13, line 16 with the following:

As should be appreciated, as the cable apparatus 800 is placed inside of the lock body 900, the arm 940 is inserted into the center slot and the outer wall of the computer. As the arm 940 is inserted into the center slot in the outer wall of the computer, the outer wall of the computer closes the opening 960 of the lock body 910. By closing the opening 960, the laptop lock of the present invention can be used not only to secure the cable to the laptop housing, but also can be used to ~~track~~ trap cable, wires, and the like. Thus, for example, the laptop lock can be used to further secure computer equipment by entrapping a power cord, a peripheral cable, such as a monitor cable, mouse cable, printer cable, telephone cord or the like, within the opening 960.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 14, line 4 with the following:

Figs. 15 and 16 shows a fourth exemplary embodiment of a laptop lock 1000 with the cable plug 100 as shown in Figs. 1 and 2 inserted into the lock body 1200. Fig. 15 is an exemplary embodiment of the cable plug 110 and the lock body 1200 in a locked position with lock 1300. Fig. ~~[[4]]~~ 16 is an exemplary embodiment of the cable plug 110 and lock body 1200 in an unlocked position with lock 1300.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 15, line 7 with the following:

As shown in Figs. 15 and 16, the cable plug 110 is inserted into the lock body 1200. The cable plug ~~[[100]]~~ 110 is restricted in its movement along the A axis by the surface 164 of the collar 160 coming into contact with the surface 1226 of the first body 1220. The cable plug 110 is also restricted along the A axis by the surface 162 of the collar 160 coming into contact with the body 1304 extending into the second diameter of the first body 1220.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 15, line 13 with the following:

As shown in Fig. 16, the laptop lock ~~[[100]]~~ 1000 is in an unlocked state. The body 1304 is in contact with the surface 162 of the collar 160 and the detent 1306 is in contact with the surface 164 of the collar 160 so as to restrict axial movement of the cable plug 110 along the A axis.